

2013 State Damage Prevention Program Grants Progress Report
CFDA Number: 20.720

Award Number: DTPH56-13-G-PHPS10

Project Title: Georgia Public Service Commission State Damage Prevention Grant

Date Submitted: April 24, 2014

Submitted by: *Michelle Thebert, Director, Facilities Protection Unit, Georgia Public Service Commission*

Specific Objective(s) of the Agreement

Under this grant agreement, the GA PSC will:

- Enforce the laws and regulations of the damage prevention process.

Workscope

Under the terms of this grant agreement, the Grantee will address the following elements listed in 49 U.S.C. §60134 (b) through the actions it has specified in its Application.

- **Element 7 (Enforcement):** Enforcement of State damage prevention laws and regulations for all aspects of the damage prevention process, including public education, and the use of civil penalties for violations assessable by the appropriate State authority.

Accomplishments for this period (Item 1 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Progress Report: “A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period.”)

For the mid-term progress report, the 2013 grant continues to fund a Field Investigator assigned to investigations of third party damages to buried utilities. The Field Investigator position has received continued funding by the SDP Grant since 2008, and has proved to be a valuable resource for both damage investigations and public education presentations. Additionally, the Field Investigator working under this grant is responsible for assessing civil penalties for probable violations of the Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act (GUFPA). The specific actions taken by the Field Investigator are detailed below.

The Field Investigator position supported by the grant has made significant contributions to the Commission’s damage prevention program by investigating 200 cases for the period September 15, 2013 – March 31, 2014, and assessing \$613,250 in civil penalties and mitigating \$443,250. The Field Investigator has attended 21 meeting/events and reached 518 attendees.

Quantifiable Metrics/Measures of Effectiveness (Item 2 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “Where the output of the project can be quantified, a computation of the cost per unit of output.”)

The following information demonstrates the public education activities conducted by the Field Investigator from September 2013 – March 2014

Date	Event	Attendees
9/3/2013	Spalding County	20
9/17/2013	Dalton County	20
9/18/2013	Savannah GUCC	18
9/25/2013	Walton County	24
10/7/2013	HB Training Consulting Review	15
10/28/2013	GUFPA Presentation Riverdale	35
10/31/2013	Macon GUCC meeting	25
01/14/2014	Columbus County GUCC	21
1/14/2014	City of Atlanta Watershed Damage Prevention training	78
1/21/2014	Hall County GUCC Meeting	10
1/27/2014	Floyd County Damage training	37
2/3/2014	Fulton County GUCC	35
2/6/2014	Coweta County GUCC	25
2/20/2014	City of Atlanta Watershed Damage Prevention training	16
2/26/2014	North Fulton GUCC meeting	20
2/27/2014	T&J industries Damage Prevention training	11
3/3/2014	Fulton County GUCC presentation	30
3/10/2014	Henry County GUCC meeting	20
3/12/2014	Cobb County GUCC meeting	25
3/13/2014	Butts County GUCC meeting	15
3/18/2014	Dekalb County GUCC meeting	18
Totals	21 Meetings and Events	518 Attendees

Issues, Problems or Challenges (Item 3 under Article IX, Section 9.01 Project Report: “The reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met. “)

No issues to report

Mid-term Financial Status Report

Grant Agreement DTPH56-13-G-PHPS10 - September, 15, 2013 to March 31, 2014	
Salary	23,333.38
FICA	1,610.43
Retirement - 18.46%	4,307.38
Health - 30.781%	7,182.28
workers compensation	109.74
merit system assessment	36.50

Total Fringes	13,246.33
300 personal svcs	36,579.71
612 motor Veh operating exp	1,447.51
614 supplies/uniform	0.00
616 equipment not inventory	0.00
619 parking (\$30/month)	0.00
640 travel	0.00
Total 301 regular operating	1,447.51
305 computer charge	70.42
307 voice/data communication	423.82
312 - Contractual Services	0.00
Indirect Charges (10%)	0.00
Total expense	38,521.46

Plans for Next Period (Remainder of Grant)

The Plans for the remainder of the project have not changed.

Requests of the AOTR and/or PHMSA

No actions requested at this time.